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1: Allergy 1996 Sep;51(9):621-32

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Immunodominance of seven regions of a major allergen, Cry j 2, of Japanese cedar pollen for T-cell immunity.

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Hashiguchi S, Hino K, Taniguchi Y, Kurimoto M, Fukuda K, Ohyama M, Fujiyoshi T, Sonoda S, Nishimura Y, Yamada G, Sugimura K.

Department of Molecular Biology, Faculty of Engineering, Kagoshima University, Japan.

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The immunodominant regions of the Japanese cedar pollen allergen Cry j 2 for T-cell immunity were determined with whole peripheral blood lymphocytes (PBL) derived from seven allergic patients and three nonallergic subjects. Cry j 2-stimulated T-cell proliferation was inhibited by anti-HLA-DR, but not by anti-HLA-DQ antibody, indicating that the responding T cells recognized the allergen peptides associated with HLA-DR molecules. It was found that seven regions of Cry j 2, i.e., regions corresponding to amino acid numbers 1-26, 70-84, 151-167, 187-203, 252-279, 283-314, and 345-362, were immunodominant for T-cell proliferation. Thus, Cry j 2 bears a limited number of immunodominant regions despite polymorphic features of HLA-DR in the immune system. This suggests the possibility of molecularly designing Cry j 2 antagonists that could downregulate allergic reactions to Japanese cedar pollen.

PMID: 8899114 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

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